

God won't accept nothing less!

(The freedom to serve authentically)

November 1, 2021

PSALM 24:1-3 NIV - (1) The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. (2) For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. (3) Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

Don't pray to Him last. Pray to Him first! Don't go to His word last, go to His word first! Make God your first love instead of your second resort. We must take God off the shelf. We must make Him first! It seems like simple math when people say, "If I give less, I'll keep more." But we have forgotten that it doesn't work that way in God's economy. Today we want to look at the difference it makes when we view as the first in everything.

Many people acknowledge God but not necessarily first. And when we search the bible we will discover how God regularly demands to be first. The word first pops up a lot in scripture in relation to God and God literally audits His position in our lives. Why? Because He doesn't take our word for it. Just because we say He is first doesn't mean He buys it. He audits it to show us in what way we claim He is first. My brothers and sisters, God cannot be second! God will let us know when He is not visibly and functionally when He is not in first place. Remember this, He made everything, therefore, I want to be consulted 'First.' I want to get my view point "First." I want you to think how I feel about it, "First." He wants to be "First in everything!"

We are Kingdom stewards. God owns everything and we are simply His faithful managers of His property. Our managerial status will be evaluated according to our time, talent and treasures. Whatever you or we have, it must be overseen by the owner of all. If you believe that something is yours, then you are in conflict with the actual owner (**PSALM 24:1-3**). So the question you ask is, "Do we really treat Him second or worse?" Let's refer to the scriptures to see what God has to say about such a question.

MALACHI 1:6-9 – God tells the priest and Israelites (preachers and the congregation), you treat your Governor better than you treat me! Because you give me your left overs. God lets the people know He is insulted that He gets as "The creator and owner that I get leftovers from you. Given who I am and my position! In fact He goes on in the same chapter and says I am a great King!

HAGGAI 1:4 – God says, you're building your house, while my house lays in waste.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1 – God wants us to communicate with Him first (Prayer). Don't pray after we have made a mess but pray first and watch the fruitful results.

PROVERBS 3:9-10 – Honor the Lord with the first of your produce. The problem is simple. Many do not "Honor" Him. Therefore, He becomes second in tithing and even offerings. It's not only the amount, but will we give it first!

GENESIS 4:3-5 – In worship, what is God asking you for that's continues to be rejected because you, me or we haven't given Him what He asked for?

God even says, make me first and see what I will do! But many do not understand the "Spiritual to the Economic."

CONCLUSION: COLOSSIANS 1:15-19 NLT – (15) Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, (16) for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. (17) He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. (18) Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything. That means there shall be no category in our lives where He is not **FIRST!!!!** If you want to experience "Freedom", give God His first! He gave all first to us so that we could be free and He is not going to accept sloppy seconds from **"NOBODY!"**

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 1:5

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: God is your source and not your resource!

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"